

2-19-1979

Administrative Notes, February 19th, 1979

University of Texas at Tyler



TEXAS EASTERN UNIVERSITY
3900 UNIVERSITY BOULEVARD • TYLER, TEXAS 75701 • 214/566-1471

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

February 19, 1979

To: Board of Regents, Texas Eastern University
From: James H. Stewart, Jr. *[Signature]*
Subject: Administrative Notes

I. Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Committee Visit

Plans were finalized by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools during the past few days relative to Texas Eastern University's reaffirmation for accreditation visit. As you know, this visit is the culminating activity of work which has been in progress within the TEU organization over approximately the past two years. Institutional work during this period of time has been focused primarily on analyzing all aspects of the Texas Eastern organization in accordance with a SACS procedure known as the self-study, a copy of which I am providing to you under separate cover.

Since the entire Texas Eastern University community has been involved in a meaningful manner in the self-study process, I expect it to serve the university community well during the committee visit; and I expect it to serve us as importantly--along with other institutional documents and resources--as a significant planning document in continued work toward institutional progress and development.

The reaffirmation for accreditation committee, of course, is the same type of committee which we have had visit us on two other occasions during the existence of the institution relative to the regional accreditation process. Dr. Grover J. Andrews, associate executive secretary of the college commission of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, will once again be representing the SACS staff during the committee visit which is scheduled for March 4-7, 1979. Actually, most of the committee's work will be accomplished during the two dates of March 5 and 6, 1979, but the committee will arrive on Sunday evening

February 19, 1979

in order to be ready for initiating their work on campus Monday, March 5, 1979. Limited activity will be scheduled on Wednesday, March 7, 1979 prior to committee members' departure likely about midmorning. Dr. Harold B. Crosby, president of Florida International University which is an upper level institution, has been designated as committee chairman for our reaffirmation visit. Dr. Crosby has indicated that he expects to make a preliminary visit to the Texas Eastern campus on Monday, February 26, 1979 to plan committee visit activities.

In addition to Dr. Crosby, other committee members are:

Dean Rufus R. Hackney of Francis Marion College,
Florence, South Carolina
Mr. Thomas W. Henderson, III of The University of
West Florida, Pensacola, Florida
Dr. E. S. Voorhies of Middle Tennessee State Uni-
versity, Murfreesboro, Tennessee
Dean Henry S. Stroupe of Wake Forrest University,
Winston-Salem, North Carolina
Mr. J. Mitchell Reames of Francis Marion College,
Florence, South Carolina
Vice Chancellor Charles L. Cahill of University of
North Carolina at Wilmington, Wilmington,
North Carolina

II. Roberts School Facility

For your information I mention that the Tyler Independent School District Board of Trustees recently agreed to utilize the Roberts School facility as a Juvenile Attention Center in cooperation with the Smith County government. Also, it is my understanding that a portion of the facility will be utilized by the City of Tyler for activities associated with the retired persons association. Necessary renovation and conversion work will begin on the Roberts facility as soon as our programs are moved.

In connection with the Roberts facility, I point out that the state auditor has provided no further information to us since Attorney General Opinion No. H-1309 was written in December 1978. (You will recall I furnished each of you a copy of this opinion on January 15, 1979.) Opinion No. H-1309 was mentioned during our recent Senate Finance Committee hearing. It is my understanding that the state auditor had appeared before the committee earlier relative to his reappointment as state auditor. During this appearance, he referred to Attorney General Opinion No. H-1309 and mentioned the foundation organizations of several institutions--including Texas Eastern--that prompted his opinion

February 19, 1979

request. I indicated to the committee that there had been no contact from the state auditor about this opinion since its issuance (The opinion was furnished to us by the Attorney Generals Office.), but that plans were approved several months ago for terminating use of the facility no later than the end of the current fiscal year. Specific questions from the committee included whether our foundation had funding sources other than the state appropriated funding received under the Roberts lease and if the president's salary supplement came from the foundation. Of course, I advised the committee that the foundation does receive gifts from private sources and that the president's salary supplement is funded by the foundation. As mentioned to you in my January 15, 1979 communication about this matter, I point out again that Harry Loftis is conducting a legal analysis of this situation. Moreover, I mention I have shared with Harry the questions relative to regents serving as members on university foundation boards as directed to me during our recent Senate Finance Committee hearing.

III. House of Representatives Higher Education Committee Hearing

The House of Representatives Higher Education Committee's Appropriative Subcommittee notified me last Thursday afternoon that the Texas Eastern University appropriative subcommittee hearing relative to the biennial request for fiscal years 1980 and 1981 had been scheduled for tomorrow, Tuesday, February 20, 1979 at 2:00 p.m. Following this hearing, there will be one other formal hearing scheduled for our institution--that being before the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee.

IV. Information Concerning Higher Education Enrollment

Several institutions in the state are experiencing problems pursuant to enrollment, and for your information I enclose a few recent newspaper clippings that pertain to this situation insofar as two East Texas institutions are concerned.

V. Tyler Area Chamber of Commerce Banquet

Arrangements have been completed for you who expressed a desire to attend the Tyler Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet on Wednesday evening, March 7, 1979 in Harvey Hall. Since a large crowd is expected to attend this function, I suggest that board members and wives who plan to attend arrive no later than 6:05 p.m. I will have your tickets at the door. Please let me know if you need additional information.

February 19, 1979

VI. Report from Resident Engineer

Attached is a report from the director of physical plant and resident engineer for the week ending February 16, 1979.

JHS:rc

Attachments